

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives are proud to recognize an outstanding individual who has brought exceptional dedication and commitment to the Missouri Department of Corrections; and

Whereas, Corrections Officer I Laurie Ann Edwards of the Tipton Correctional Center (TCC) in Tipton, Missouri, will be presented the Missouri Department of Corrections Lifesaver Award on June 19, 2003, at the TCC; and

Whereas, the Missouri Department of Corrections Lifesaver Award recognizes and honors employees who have stepped in and taken extraordinary actions to save the lives of other persons, be it colleagues, visitors, or offenders, in the workplace; and

Whereas, on December 24, 2002, CO I Edwards and another officer were returning to the TCC after working hospital duty when they observed several vehicles passing another vehicle that had veered off the road and hit a tree; and

Whereas, CO I Edwards and the other officer noticed that the driver slumped over the steering wheel was fellow corrections officer James Sapp and that the only way to extricate him from the vehicle would be to go in through where the windshield had been; and

Whereas, after CO I Edwards talked to the victim and kept him alert and the other officer called for help, emergency assistance crews arrived to take the victim to the hospital, who had been trapped in the car for over an hour before the officers stopped to help; and

Whereas, CO I Edwards' performance of her duties reflects the dedication, pride, and professionalism which she has brought to her many assignments since joining the Missouri Department of Corrections on December 21, 2001; and

Whereas, a high school graduate, CO I Edwards has been abundantly blessed with the love and admiration of a wonderful family which includes her devoted husband, Clifford, and her three children, Shawna Jones, and Christie and Travis Edwards:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join together with Director Gary B. Kempker and the Missouri Department of Corrections in a thunderous round of applause for CO I Laurie Edwards at this proud moment of well-deserved distinction; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Corrections Officer I Laurie Ann Edwards of Syracuse, Missouri.

Offered by _____

Representative Larry Crawford

District No. 117

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2794, adopted May 12, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker